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15 JUN 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : New Boston Tracking Station
for CORONA

1. In an effort to devise more effective means of exploiting the limited film supply available in CORONA vehicles, a meeting was held on 9 June to discuss the advisability of establishing an additional command control facility at the New Boston Tracking Station. The meeting was attended by the following people:

Colonel Stanley Beerli



Mr. Gene Kiefer

Lt. Colonel Charles Murphy



2. It was agreed that establishing this capability was most desirable and should be accomplished without delay. Following are the most pertinent advantages that will be gained by this added facility:

a. Improved system capability will be achieved by giving the Ground Commander more selectivity of areas over which the camera operates. Without New Boston, 30 percent of the payload must be committed at one time. However, with New Boston only 10 percent of the payload will be committed at one time. The increased selectivity would allow expenditure of the limited film supply in the areas of primary interest, areas of best weather, and areas not previously covered.

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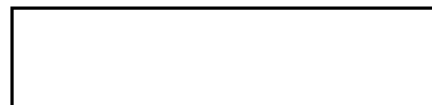
b. Weather forecasts will be more accurate because:

(1) The advance forecast time period can be greatly reduced. Without New Boston, the camera on-off decisions for the entire first five passes over the USSR each day must be made on the basis of a twenty-four hour forecast. With New Boston, the decision will apply to no more than two passes at one time and will be based upon a twelve hour forecast.

(2) Dividing the forecast areas into one or two flight line increments allows the forecaster to concentrate his attention upon a much smaller area and time period.

3. AFBMD will provide the funding needed to obtain this command control facility. No Project Funds will be required to provide this additional capability.

4. A request has been forwarded to AFBMD to integrate the command control function into the New Boston Tracking Station.



STANLEY W. BEERLI
Colonel USAF
Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

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